

The Channing Home

Francis Street and Pilgrim Road (Longwood), Boston

Report No. 48

For the Two Years Ending

Dec. 31, 1920

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THE BARTA PRESS

1921

THE CHANNING HOME

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Matron

MISS E. C. MACADAM, R.N.

THE CHANNING HOME

REPORT No. 48

The Directors submit the following report for the two years ending Dec. 31, 1920 :

HISTORICAL NOTE

HARRIET RYAN (afterward MRS. ALBEE) was born in Boston, March 5, 1829. In her youth she saw much of illness in her own family and assisted her mother in the care of helpless incurables. She was early compelled to earn her own living, and being of an exceptionally tender and sympathetic nature devoted herself and a large part of her earnings unselfishly to the care of chronic and helpless invalids. In the course of her daily rounds as a hairdresser she succeeded in obtaining sufficient encouragement in her benevolent task to enable her to secure the unoccupied vestry of Dr. Channing's church in Federal Street, where the Home was first opened in May, 1857. This soon proved inadequate for all the poor patients in need of her help, and in March, 1858, the Home was moved to 13 South Street, where it was incorporated as the Channing Home. In 1859 a fair was given in aid of the Home, for which poems were written by Nathaniel Langdon Frothingham, Oliver Wendell Holmes, James Russell Lowell and Ralph Waldo Emerson. On May 1, 1870, it was necessary to move to more commodious quarters at 30 McLean Street. Until her death on May 2, 1873, Harriet Ryan Albee never failed in her devotion to the Home and actively directed its affairs.

A charming sketch of her life was written in 1901 by James De Normandie, D.D. The Home was again moved on Oct. 31, 1907, to its present location on the corner of Francis Street and Pilgrim Road (Longwood), Boston.

The institution has now completed more than a half century of existence and was the first of its kind to be established in this country. A comfortable home has already been given to more than eighteen hundred indigent women.

PURPOSES OF THE HOME

It seems to the Directors that the Home can best serve the present needs of the community by continuing to devote its resources for the most part to the temporary care of patients with pulmonary tuberculosis. Owing to the length of the waiting lists for admission to the State Sanatoria, there may be a delay of two to three months before patients with pulmonary tuberculosis can enter these institutions. By their immediate removal from unfavorable conditions at home, they can at once be given the benefit of proper care and attention, and the danger of the spread of the disease to other members of the family is immediately prevented.

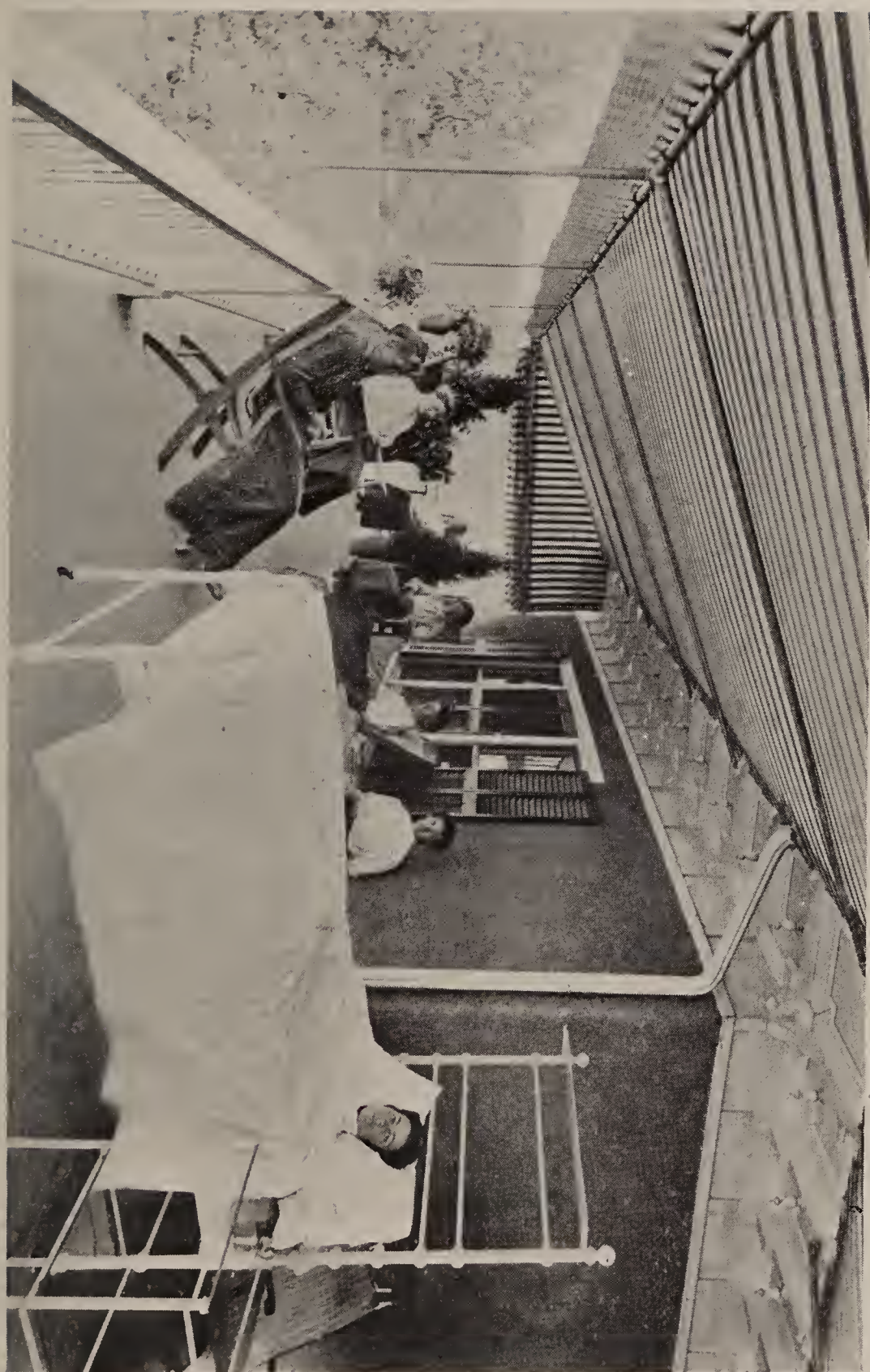
The Home is of much educational value to the Harvard Medical students, who serve as assistants and perform much of the routine work of the clinic under the supervision of the Visiting Physician. The patients are of assistance in furnishing material for classes in Physical Diagnosis, conducted by the Visiting Physician.

The Home exerts an important educational influence on the community. By a course of strict training the patients are instructed in the sources of danger to others, thus diminishing the chance of infection from those who are discharged and serving as a useful example to the numerous relatives and friends who visit the institution.

Every patient is examined after admission by the Visiting Physician, who prescribes treatment and follows the case at his subsequent visits. The House Officers are in daily attendance and carry on the routine laboratory work, history taking, keeping up of records, etc. In addition to his regular visits, the Visiting Physician attends the Home at such other times as the condition of the patients demands. This has proved a satisfactory method for keeping in touch with and observing the patients, and of affording them all the medical care they need.

THE LADIES' COMMITTEE

The work commenced in 1916 by the Ladies' Committee of the Home has been carried on successfully during the past two years. The details relating to household administra-



tion, the different phases of the regular weekly visiting, the friendly contact with patients, the planning of the Christmas celebration, etc., all fall within the province of this Committee.

Paths opened up in connection with patients often lead out to the home and family beyond, and a wider field is thus given the interested worker for friendly advice or help of various kinds. Some of the assistance rendered the past year took the form of sending to the country a patient who had spent a long time at the Home and would be benefited, it was felt, by a complete change of scene. Through the efforts of one of the Committee she was equipped with comfortable clothing and helped to a long vacation, which has borne fruit in a distinct gain in health and spirits.

Another opportunity for assistance came when a little girl of four, ready to leave the Home, was going back to conditions which promised to destroy some of the good accomplished. Her father, realizing the lack of suitable surroundings, was anxious that a home be found for her where she could receive the attention needed, and offered to pay her board if such a place could be secured. Through the efforts of the Committee and Miss MacAdam, such a home was found, and, equipped with warm clothes, the little patient was taken to her new quarters. When, some months later, the father sent for her, she had received a start that would mean much in any later struggle she might have with adverse health conditions.

It seems fitting to chronicle here one of the fortunate rôles the Home was called upon to play during the bitter winter of 1920. At the height of one of the worst blizzards of the year, a father and mother from another state, bringing their invalid daughter home from the Adirondacks, reached the South Station, where the young girl was stricken with such severe hemorrhages that it was seen to be out of the question to continue the journey. After unsuccessful attempts to find a place for her in other institutions, the Channing Home was asked if it could receive her, and the Matron immediately replied that it could. So deep were the drifts on Francis Street that the ambulance carrying the patient could not reach the door, and the young girl was carried on a stretcher from Huntington Avenue to the

Home. Here she was made comfortable in all possible ways, and accommodations were found for her father and mother at the Deaconess Hospital nearby. Her death twenty-four hours later was softened for her parents by the sympathy and skill which the staff of the Home had given in such good measure.

FEES FROM PATIENTS

All patients were originally treated free, but in recent years a fee of \$5.00 is charged to all patients able to pay. Those coming from outside towns where there is no State provision made for tuberculous patients have their fees paid by such towns.

MEDICAL REPORT

To Jan. 1, 1921, one thousand nine hundred and sixty-nine patients have been admitted to the Home.

On Dec. 31, 1918, there were fifteen patients in the Home. During the two years ending Dec. 31, 1920, one hundred and forty-three patients were admitted. Thus one hundred and fifty-eight patients are on record for the two years which have elapsed since the last report. Of these, seventeen patients were in the Home Jan. 1, 1921. Of the remaining one hundred and forty-one patients, fifteen died; and four suspected of having pulmonary tuberculosis proved not to have it. The one hundred and twenty-two patients discharged had pulmonary tuberculosis and may be classed according to the stage of the disease as follows:

Incipient	.	.	.	.	39
Moderately advanced	.	.	.	.	40
Advanced	.	.	.	.	43

Improvement was noticed in most of the incipient cases. The four non-tubercular cases proved to be sequelæ of influenza.

It has been possible during the past two years to keep a certain number of suitable cases for a greater length of time than heretofore, with benefit to themselves, and without diminishing the usefulness of the Home to the community.

There was an appreciable lessening of the demand for beds during the months following the influenza epidemic ; but the constant lengthening of the waiting-list at present shows a need at least equal to that before 1918 and 1919.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Directors are happy to place on record their warm appreciation of the work done during the past two years by the Visiting Physician, Dr. Gerald Blake, and the Assistant Visiting Physician, Dr. George P. Denny. Their skill and devotion have meant much to the Home.

The service rendered by the Assistants is also gratefully acknowledged.

Special mention should also be made of the continued excellent and efficient work of the Matron, and the appreciation the Directors have of the daily service rendered by the household of the Home.

LIST OF DONATORS

FROM DEC. 31, 1918, TO DEC. 31, 1920

Mrs. Freeman Allen, Mr. John Ames, Miss Margaret Anthony, Mrs. C. Anderson (grateful patient), The Misses Bigelow, Miss Marie Blake, Mrs. Parkman Blake, Mrs. Shepard Brooks, Miss N. Burns, Boston Branch of Needlewomen's Guild of America, Dr. Algernon Coolidge, Mr. Harold Coolidge, Mrs. John G. Coolidge, Mrs. J. R. Coolidge, Miss Geraldine Calla, Miss Anna W. Cutler, Cobb, Bates & Yerxa Co., Mrs. George Derby, Rev. Father Devlin, S.J., Miss Mary Dwyer, Dorcas Society, Miss Mary Fay, Miss Edith Fisher, Rev. J. A. Finn, Dr. Elisha Flagg, Mrs. Henry F. Grew, Mr. John Hall, Mrs. Homans, Miss M. V. Iasigi, Miss Kennan, Miss Loring, Miss Laura Little, Miss Georgina Lowell, Dr. F. T. Lord, Rev. William Murphy, S.J., Hon. J. P. Parmenter, A. G. Patch Company, Miss Rogers, Miss Alice Sargent, Mrs. Florence Shaal, Mrs. Mary Schlesinger, Christian Science Monitor, Miss Slocum, Mrs. John Teele (grateful patient), Young Men's Christian Union, Mrs. Lorna Upton.

DONATIONS AND ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

1919 and 1920

Mrs. Gordon Abbott	.	.	.	.	.	\$20.00
Mrs. C. F. Adams, 2d	.	.	.	.	.	20.00
Mrs. G. R. Agassiz	.	.	.	.	.	40.00
Mrs. Leonard Ahl	.	.	.	.	.	20.00
Mrs. Freeman Allen	.	.	.	.	.	10.00
Mrs. J. B. Ames	.	.	.	.	.	20.00
Mr. J. S. Ames	.	.	.	.	.	200.00
Mrs. C. W. Amory	.	.	.	.	.	10.00
Mrs. Boylston Beal	.	.	.	.	.	10.00
Mrs. J. H. Beal	.	.	.	.	.	10.00
Mrs. A. W. Blake	.	.	.	.	.	10.00
Mrs. S. P. Blake	.	.	.	.	.	40.00
Miss O. Y. Bowditch	.	.	.	.	.	10.00
Miss S. F. Bremer	.	.	.	.	.	40.00
Miss F. R. Brewer	.	.	.	.	.	10.00
Mrs. Shepherd Brooks	.	.	.	.	.	50.00
Mr. A. C. Coolidge	.	.	.	.	.	20.00
Mrs. J. G. Coolidge	.	.	.	.	.	20.00
Mr. J. R. Coolidge	.	.	.	.	.	40.00
Mr. T. Jefferson Coolidge	.	.	.	.	.	20.00
Mrs. S. V. R. Crosby	.	.	.	.	.	20.00
Mr. C. A. Dean	.	.	.	.	.	50.00
Miss R. L. Dexter	.	.	.	.	.	30.00
Mr. N. H. Emmons	.	.	.	.	.	20.00
Mrs. R. W. Emmons, 2d	.	.	.	.	.	20.00
Mr. S. H. Fessenden	.	.	.	.	.	50.00
Dr. Elisha Flagg	.	.	.	.	.	20.00
Mrs. W. E. Forbes	.	.	.	.	.	10.00
A Friend	.	.	.	.	.	100.00
Mrs. L. A. Frothingham	.	.	.	.	.	20.00
Miss Julia Goddard	.	.	.	.	.	10.00
Mrs. Reginald Gray	.	.	.	.	.	30.00
Mrs. H. S. Grew	.	.	.	.	.	20.00
Mr. J. L. Hall	.	.	.	.	.	70.00
Mrs. F. L. Higginson	.	.	.	.	.	10.00
Mr. Henry Hornblower	.	.	.	.	.	20.00
Miss E. M. Iasigi	.	.	.	.	.	10.00

Miss M. V. Iasigi	\$20.00
Mrs. D. P. Kimball	25.00
Mrs. G. M. Lane	50.00
Mrs. W. C. Loring	10.00
Mrs. T. K. Lothrop	50.00
Mr. Henry Lyman	200.00
Mrs. Kingsmill Marrs	30.00
Miss E. F. Mason	20.00
Miss E. F. Moseley	20.00
Mrs. E. P. Motley	25.00
Mr. G. H. Norcross	20.00
Mr. J. P. Parmenter	50.00
Mrs. Neal Rantoul	50.00
Mrs. F. L. W. Richardson	10.00
Mrs. R. S. Russell	30.00
Mrs. R. M. Saltonstall	20.00
Mrs. G. H. Shaw	40.00
Mrs. C. C. Simmons	10.00
Miss E. L. Sohier	10.00
Mr. J. T. Spaulding	50.00
Mr. W. S. Spaulding	50.00
Mrs. R. H. Stevenson	10.00
Miss A. M. Storer	10.00
Miss M. G. Storer	10.00
Mrs. E. R. Thayer	20.00
Mr. George Wigglesworth	10.00

MRS. FREEMAN ALLEN,
MISS MARIE BLAKE,
JAMES P. PARMENTER,
ALGERNON COOLIDGE, M.D.,
ELISHA FLAGG, M.D.

Executive Committee.

THE CHANNING HOME, *in account with*JAMES P. PARMENTER, *Treasurer**January 1, 1919, to December 31, 1919*

DR.

Balance from Last Account	\$401.47
Interest on Bonds	4,761.85
Dividends on Stocks	2,215.00
Trustees of E. V. Ashton Estate	2,200.00
R. B. Brigham Estate, Annuity	1,000.00
Board of Patients	2,403.68
Gifts and Subscriptions	1,140.00
Interest on Bank Deposit	61.73
	\$14,183.73

CR.

Ordinary Expenses of Home	\$12,971.63
Sundries	136.24
Lent to Principal Account	340.08
Balance to Next Account	735.78
	\$14,183.73

JAMES P. PARMENTER, *Treasurer*

January 14, 1920

THE CHANNING HOME, *in account with*JAMES P. PARMENTER, *Treasurer**January 1, 1920, to December 31, 1920*

DR.

Balance from Last Account	\$735.78
Interest on Bonds	4,812.50
Dividends on Stocks	2,258.75
Trustees of E. V. Ashton Estate	2,200.00
R. B. Brigham Estate, Annuity	1,000.00
Board of Patients	4,060.86
Gifts and Subscriptions	945.00
Interest on Bank Deposit	69.05
	\$16,081.94

CR.

Ordinary Expenses of Home	\$15,934.79
Sundries	91.04
Balance to Next Account	56.11
	\$16,081.94

JAMES P. PARMENTER, *Treasurer*

January 12, 1921

